REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in the above-identified RCE, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner again objected to the specification alleging that the incorporation of essential material in the specification by reference to a foreign application or patent, or to a publication, is improper. The Examiner cited MPEP 608.01(p) to support such a position. The Examiner then states that "it is not required that Applicant remove the incorporation by reference, just that portion of that reference to **essential** material" (emphasis in original). As pointed out in the previous response, MPEP 608.01(p) sub-part B and 201.13, sub-part G supports Applicants position that the incorporation by reference of the priority document is proper. Furthermore, Applicants do not know of any incorporation by reference of **essential** material. The first paragraph of the present application merely reads:

> This application claims benefit of Japanese Application No. 2000-199741 filed in Japan on June 30, 2000, the contents of which are incorporated by this reference.

Nowhere does Applicant expressly incorporate by reference essential material from Japanese Application No. 2000-199741. Thus, the Examiner is respectfully requested to explain her position.

However, in the interests of advancing prosecution, the Applicants are willing to amend the first paragraph of the present application so as to be acceptable to the Examiner. In this regard, the Applicants respectfully request a suggestion for such amendment by the Examiner. If possible, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to discuss such an amendment, particularly if the application is in condition for allowance if not for the objection to the first paragraph of the specification.

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner rejected claim 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner argues that the term "largely deforms" is a relative term and indefinite. In response, claim 27 has been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 25, 28, 30 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,534,221 to Hillebrenner et al. (hereinafter "Hillebrenner"). Furthermore, the Examiner rejected claims 25-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,730,729 to Mönch (hereinafter "Mönch"). Still further, the Examiner rejected claims 25-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,798,292 to Hauze (hereinafter "Hauze"). Lastly, the Examiner rejected claims 25-27, 30, 31 and 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being allegedly anticipated by Japanese Patent No. JP 2000-060791 (hereinafter "JP 060791").

In response, claims 25-34 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections thereof moot.

However, new claims 35-49 have been added to define at least one aspect of the patentable invention. New claims 35-49 are fully supported in the original disclosure. Thus, no new matter has been entered into the disclosure by way of the addition of new claims 35-49. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 35, 40 and 43 patentably distinguish over the prior art and are allowable and that claims 36-39, 41, 42 and 44-49 are at least allowable as being dependent therefrom.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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